

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

## WHERE DO YOU PLAN TO VOTE? STAY SAFE AND AVOID THE LINES -- CHECK WAIT TIMES AT MONTGOMERY COUNTY VOTE CENTERS BY TEXT OR APP

For the 2020 Presidential General Election in Maryland, most neighborhood polling places will be closed and replaced with larger vote centers at early voting sites and public high schools. To help voters navigate their choices and decide where to vote, the Montgomery County Board of Elections and Department of Technology Services today unveiled a new **MoCo Voter App.** 

Using the MoCo Voter app, voters can:

- Identify the three closest early voting centers
- Identify the three closest Election Day vote centers
- Obtain turn-by-turn driving directions
- Check wait times
- View the Sample Ballot and Official Voter Information
- Check the status of their mail-in or provisional ballot

"The MoCo Voter App is a great resource for voters," says Gilberto Zelaya, Community Engagement and Public Information Officer for the Board of Elections. "With the growth of smart phone use, the app gives voters easier access to information. With so many changes to this election due to the pandemic, we wanted to make it as easy as possible for voters to get the information they need using familiar technology."

The MoCo Voter app complements Montgomery County's existing SMS texting tool, which provides voters with information at their fingertips by texting SMS commands to 77788.

Voters can also text the following to 777-88:

- BOX + ZIP code (Example: BOX 20879) for the four closest ballot drop boxes and the USPS Post Office locator
- EV + ZIP code (Example: EV 20879): identify the three closest early voting centers, driving directions and wait-times
- VC + ZIP code (Example: VC 20879): identify the three closest Election Day vote centers, driving directions and wait-times
- CHECK to review their voter registration and the status of their mail-in or provisional ballot

The Montgomery County Board of Elections recently won two Achievement Awards from the National Association of Counties for multicultural and multigenerational outreach, including partnering with the Department of Technology Services in developing this app and texting tool. The MoCo Voters app is available to download on the Montgomery County Board of Elections website at <a href="https://www.777vote.org">www.777vote.org</a> and is available on <a href="mailto:Google Play">Google Play</a> and the <a href="https://www.777vote.org">App Store</a>.

Your Health, Your Voice, Your Vote

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